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UNCLAS SARAJEVO 000100

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

STATE FOR OES/PCI PATRICK HUDAK BUDAPEST FOR SAMUEL KOTIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KGHG SENV ENRG BK

SUBJECT: BOSNIA: TILTING TOWARD ASSOCIATION WITH COPENHAGEN

ACCORD

REF: STATE 3080

- 11. (SBU) On January 20, DCM urged President Zeljko Komsic's Foreign Policy Advisor Davor Vuletic (in Komsic's absence) to support the Copenhagen Accord as an important step to combat climate change (reftel). DCM underscored that Washington is urging Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to associate itself with the Accord by January 31. He also noted that BiH's association with the Accord will not carry significant legal obligations for BiH. Although Vuletic made no firm commitment, he noted that President Komsic has been proactive on climate change in the past. (Note: Komsic intended to lead BiH's Copenhagen delegation but was unable due to a death in the family. End Note.) Vuletic said that he would follow-up with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MOFTER), the lead BiH institution on climate change, and he would share our position right away. The UK, France, and Germany have also lobbied for BiH's participation in the Accord.
- 12. (SBU) On January 29, BiH's head of delegation, Senad Oprasic from MOFTER, told us that the ministry will pass its formal recommendation that BiH associate itself with the accord, although with reservations, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and then to President Komsic's office, on February 1.

Comment

13. (SBU) As BiH is already a signatory to United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol, we agree with Oprasic that BiH will be favorably inclined to associate

itself with the Copenhagen Accord.

ENGLISH